

(Washington, D.C.) - Congressman Tim Ryan (D-Ohio) was notified Friday evening by the Department of Labor that over 3000 area workers who took buyouts from Delphi will be eligible to apply for benefits under the federal Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA) program. Until now, it was uncertain whether those workers who took buyouts would be considered to have left their jobs voluntarily, thus making them ineligible for federal benefits such as Trade Adjustment Assistance.

Congressman Ryan and Congressman Mike Turner (R-Ohio) wrote a letter in July to Secretary of Labor, Elaine Chao, urging her to do everything in her power to see that the workers would be eligible for TAA and other assistance.

"This is very welcome news for the thousands of individuals in our area who've had to face the challenge of losing a job," said Congressman Ryan. "This decision by the Department of Labor opens the door for those workers to become eligible for valuable federal assistance programs. In the coming days and weeks, I intend to work closely with the Department of Labor, the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services, Delphi, and the labor community to ensure that every worker who is eligible to apply for this assistance gets the information they need."